



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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32ND CD SPECIAL: KEY POWER BROKERS IN BATTLE TO REPLACE JULIAN DIXON ARE WATERS & BURKE.

Editor's note: Gov. Gray Davis(D) has set June 5th as the special election to replace the late Congressman Julian Dixon of L.A. The primary will be held 8 weeks earlier on April 10th. Both dates coincide with the Los Angeles municipal primary and runoff. The all-important filing deadline is Feb. 26th. Here's our update & analysis...

...While the dates have been set, the cast of major candidates in what promises to be a very rough and perhaps nasty battle is still up in the air. And there's lots of behind the scenes political maneuvering going on as well. The key power brokers in this special are U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters and L.A. Co. Sup. Yvonne Burke. Sources say they've held discussions with a number of their Demo allies both in L.A. and in DC – trying to figure out whom to back. And in this special, sources say Waters and Burke are just as concerned about whom they don't want...

...Here's the list of the major candidates who are actively exploring as of 1/9: State Sen. Kevin Murray; State Assemblyman Rod Wright; and L.A. Councilmen Mark Ridley-Thomas and Nate Holden; and former State Sen. Tom Hayden(D-West L.A.)...

...Missing from this group is former L.A. Police Comm. Gary Greenebaum, who told Calpeek that he will not run. In his position as head of the American Jewish Committee in L.A., he's always been a "bridge builder," but says his candidacy could have had the opposite effect. Greenebaum's exit is good news for Hayden, if he runs. Greenebaum and Hayden are the only two major players who are white. Although the 32nd CD has had black representation in the U.S. House since 1972, this CD has a diverse ethnic population...

...Calpeek sources are now fairly certain that Assemblyman Herb Wesson won't make the run, but that could change. Wesson's playing wait & see – he's much more interested in succeeding Bob Hertzberg as the Calif. Assembly Speaker. On the MIA list is Ambassador Diane E. Watson, the former State Senator and LAUSD Board member. Her name keeps

popping up, but there's been no official word from her as to her plans. If she were to run, Watson, by just about all accounts, would be the favorite...

...That brings us back to Waters & Burke, who along with Watson, are considered the *Grande Dames* of South Central L.A. politics. And while Waters & Burke have a cordial relationship, sources say Watson is on the outs with both of them. Remember, Watson and Burke slugged it out in 1992 to replace the late Kenneth Hahn on the L.A. Co. Board of Supes. It was a bitter fight. As for Waters and Watson, it's like oil & water: they just don't get along. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2001: CALPEEK'S FIRST LOOK AT THE BATTLE TO REPLACE RIORDAN AS MAYOR OF L.A.

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of reports and updates that Calpeek will be writing about the contest to become Los Angeles' next mayor. Candidates seeking L.A.'s top job began taking out declaration of intent papers on Jan. 9th. Those papers must be returned by Jan. 16th. Here's our analysis & update...

...Some call the April 10th citywide primary for mayor the *Battle of the Big 6*. That's obviously a reference to the 6 major/serious candidates who want to replace Richard Riordan, who is *termed out*. In addition to the six, be assured there will be other minor candidates as well – and they are important because they take votes away from the serious candidates...

...Most political pundits and insiders generally agree that there are 3 or 4 tiers of candidates, depending upon how one breaks it down. Calpeek subscribes to the 4 tier theory. In the top tier (most insiders agree with this assessment) are L.A. City Atty. Jim Hahn and L.A. Councilman Joel Wachs. It's after the top tier that punditry becomes more complex. In the 2nd tier is CA Controller Kathleen Connell. Former Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa and L.A. City Parks Comm. Steve Soboroff are in the 3rd tier, while U.S. Rep. Xavier Becerra(D-L.A.) is in the 4th tier...

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...Most sources believe that Hahn is in the best position to make the June 5th runoff. The big question is whether Wachs can hold off Connell, Villaraigosa and Soboroff. Of the 6 candidates, Hahn and Wachs have the best name ID and Wachs is a master when it comes to grabbing headlines. Connell probably has the best ballot title. And make no mistake, Connell, being the only woman and with her message that L.A. City is in a fiscal crisis because of the many and costly lawsuits over the Rampart/LAPD fiasco, is perhaps in a better spot than either Villaraigosa or Soboroff to move upward into the top tier...

...Some insiders think Soboroff is well positioned because of the strong support from Mayor Riordan. And of the big six, Soboroff is the only GOPer. But he'll have to spend big bucks to boost his low name ID – not an impossible task...

...Now to Becerra and Villaraigosa. The recent L.A. Times article by James Rainey about these two popular Latino candidates says it all. Both are running and there's little doubt they'll split the Hispanic base and neither will make the runoff. L.A. Co. Sup. Gloria Molina and former Clinton cabinet member Henry Cisneros tried to broker a deal to get one of the two out of the race. No deal. Of the two, Villaraigosa has the best shot to pick up significant cross-over votes and some insiders think he's got the best campaign team of the six. Truth is that Villaraigosa and Becerra are the future leaders of L.A., but the future is still 4-8 years away...

...FYI: Heal the Bay (Bd. of Governors) and Edelman Public Relations are sponsoring an environmental mayoral forum, 10:30 a.m., Jan. 30, Metropolitan Water District HQ, downtown L.A. Info (310)453-0395 ext. 111. Stay tuned...

POLITICS OF THE ENERGY CRISIS: BY THE NUMBERS

Editor's note: This story about Calif.'s energy crisis is moving at about *Warp 10*. There are new developments in each 24 hour news cycle. So this week **Calpeek** will focus on Gov. Gray Davis' State of the State address and will also throw in the latest L.A. Times polling of the dereg quagmire. It has some interesting numbers which politicians will be examining carefully. The poll was taken Jan. 4 – 5, among 459 registered voters. Here's our analysis...

...Davis had to be both bold and tough in his State of State address on Jan. 8th and he was. His use of political buzz words to describe Calif.'s problem ("an energy nightmare") were simple, but accurate. And Davis knew who to blame for the crisis too: FERC (the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) permitted "legalized highway robbery" by allowing the out of state energy suppliers to charge outrageous wholesale prices for energy. If there was a downside to

the address, it was that Davis didn't look comfortable in his delivery and he didn't give any specifics on the cost of solving the "nightmare." However, by not being too specific, Davis wisely didn't tip his hand to the utility companies, the energy suppliers or the banks (creditors)...

...Prior to Davis' address, the L.A. Times asked voters about Davis' job performance: 51% approve, 26% disapprove and 23% don't know. But the numbers go in the tank when voters are asked if they approve or disapprove of Davis' handling the crisis: 28% approve; 42% disapprove, with 30% don't know. But this was before the address and the DC trip. Knowing what we know about Davis and his political advisors, it's almost a sure bet that Davis pollster Paul Maslin was or is in the field right now testing public reaction to the governor's address...

...And we're almost sure Maslin has tested buy out vs. bail out when it comes to Calif.'s three major *IOUs* (investor owned utilities). There's little doubt Davis' political future becomes *clouded* if he chooses the bail out route, with ratepayers picking up a huge tab. Consumer groups would go nuts and launch an initiative. One thing Davis won't permit: bankruptcy of Calif.'s major utility companies. But Davis may not have much say if the banks decide that bankruptcy is the best alternative...

...Here are some numbers from the LAT poll which we find very interesting:

◆ Who is to blame for the dereg mess? Private utilities (SCE/PG&E) 35%, CA Legislature 25%, deregulation 22%, CPUC 13%, Gov. Davis 10%, energy suppliers 8%, not building new generators 6%. The PUC and energy suppliers got of easy – if these numbers are accurate...

◆ Is there really a shortage of electricity? YES 37%, NO 54%, don't know 9%. This response really surprised many insiders. Davis asked the CA legislature to approve \$4 million to the Calif. DOJ so that AG Bill Lockyer can probe to see if there's been illegal activity by the energy suppliers...

◆ Should Calif. return to a regulated system? 64% agree, 23% say give dereg more time, and 13% don't know. What this last question says is that the Demo base wants a Calif. Power Authority (public power). Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S PRICE WILL REMAIN JUST \$90 PER YEAR
Despite the U.S. Postal rate increase from .33 to .34 cents for 1st class mail which went into effect on Jan. 7th, **Calpeek's** price for the coming year will remain just \$90 for 1 year and/or \$165 for 2 years. Stay tuned...

UPDATE: BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF CALIF. GOP.

Editor's note: Here's yet another update on the battle for control of the Calif. Republican Party. The CRP holds its spring convention Feb. 23-25 at the Sacramento Hyatt Regency Hotel...

...Breaking news: as Calpeek hit deadline, word came out of Sacto that former Congressman Jim Rogan has had a change of heart and would run for the CRP chairmanship, but only under certain conditions. This bit of news hit just as current CRP Vice Chair Shawn Steel and former Assemblyman Brooks Firestone were making presentations to the combined GOP Senate & Assembly. Both were caught off guard by Rogan's announcement. Steel had met with Rogan in DC about a month ago and was told by Rogan that he wasn't interested in the CRP job. Wonder if Rogan is having a tough time lining up a new job in DC???

...The conditions Rogan wants, according to two reliable sources, is a 4-year contract @ \$225,000 per year, retro-active to January 1st. In addition, Rogan says he wouldn't take the job unless both Steel and Firestone drop out of the running. In order to have a 4-year/\$225,000 contract would require a 2/3rds vote for a rules change and sources aren't sure if the votes are there from the CRP delegates...

...Steel has paid his dues and by all accounts is winning his battle with Firestone. Sources told Calpeek Steel won backing from almost the entire Calif. GOP U.S. House delegation, as well as support from well over half of all the GOP county chairs. The big question in terms of Rogan is his *image*. He was one of the key Clinton impeachment managers and some think that led to his loss for reelection. And given Bill Clinton's popularity in Calif., Rogan might not be the best candidate for this particular job...

...The lineup for the other CRP offices now looks this way. There were several candidates listed in the previous issue who are either termed out (only 2 terms permitted under CRP rules) or just not running...

	<u>conservative</u>	<u>moderates</u>
Vice chair	Bill Back	Fred Lowell
Secretary	unknown	Beth Rogers
Treasurer	Doug Boyd	April Boling
Reg. VC North	Jalene Andrews	Jim Hartman
Reg. VC Central	Cliff Unruh	unknown
Reg. VC South	Lois Godfrey	Roxana Foxx

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CAMPAIGN 2001: EARLY SPRING MUNI ELECTIONS.

Editor's note: Each Spring there are a whole series of local municipal elections. This Spring is no different. Here's our update...

...The first early Spring election is Feb. 27th in Burbank. One week later some 60 cities hold their Spring elections. Cities scheduled to hold Mar. 6th elections include 52 in Los Angeles County. The bigger and better known cities holding elections on Mar. 6th include Beverly Hills, Carson, Manhattan Beach, Norwalk and West Hollywood. On April 3rd the cities of Glendale & Inglewood holds their muni election, followed a week later by the big L.A. City election April 10th...

☒ Glendale – Filing deadline is Jan. 30th, but so far 10 candidates have taken out papers for the two(2) open seats of veteran councilmembers Ginger Bremberg and Sheldon Baker, who will NOT seek reelection...

☒ Inglewood – Filing closed Jan. 5th and there are 5 candidates seeking the open 1st District seat of Jerome Horton, who was elected to the State Assembly this past November. Candidates include Marilyn Douroux, Gloria Gray, Lois Hill Hale, John W. Russell and Curren D. Price. Price is a former councilman who lost his council post when he ran unsuccessfully for mayor. And there are four(4) challengers who are trying to unseat Councilwoman Judith Dunlap, who is seeking another term. Rivals include Cal Burton, Johnny Inghram, F. Paul Russell and Gary Farwell...

...In addition to local mayors and councilmembers, voters also will face a number of local initiatives and bond measures. Here's our first look...

◆ L.A. Community College Bonds – It's a big one: \$1.2 billion for construction and renovation projects. It's the biggest bond measure the community college district has ever put before voters, but sources say the system's 9 campuses which serve 110,000 students haven't had any major improvements in nearly 40 years. One thing that's important to note: this bond needs only 55% to pass, not the old 2/3rds requirement – thanks to Prop. 39, which was approved last year. The L.A. Community College District has hired consultant Darry Sragow to run this campaign. Sragow also ran the successful \$1.6 billion bond measure for the LAUSD several years ago. The election takes place April 10th...

◆ The Condom Initiative – Only in West Hollywood. This initiative facing voters on Mar. 6th is actually known as the West Hollywood Safer Sex Act or Prop. 01-A. It requires the city of West Hollywood to distribute safer sex

literature and a minimum of 500,000 condoms per year to city businesses which generate 50% of their revenue from the sale of alcohol for on-site consumption. That basically means Weho's many *gay bars*. The city council recently voted 2-0 to oppose this initiative, with members Steve Martin and John Heilman voting NO, while councilmembers Jeff Prang and Sal Guarriello abstained. The initiative is being sponsored by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation. West Hollywood has its own voluntary condom distribution program, which gives out some 320,000 condoms to some 30 businesses each year. West Hollywood's 37,000 population makes up only 0.5% of the entire L.A. County population, but accounts for 6% of the county's population with AIDS. FYI: Sacto-based consultant Phil Giarrizzo will handle direct mail for YES on Pro. 01-A, while Clint Trout will handle daily cmp. duties. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Jan. 20	Inauguration Day, Washington DC.
Jan. 24-28	AAPC convention, Washington DC.
Feb. 6	65 th AD special election primary.
Feb. 23-25	CA Republican Party spring convention @ Hyatt Regency Hotel, Sacramento.
Feb. 25-27	Sacramento Seminar.
Feb. 27	Burbank city election.
Mar. 6	60 municipal elections, mostly L.A. County; 24 th SD Special election primary.

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ **Will Congressman Cox Join Team Bush?** – Lots of speculation down in Orange Co. that popular U.S. Rep. Chris Cox(R) might take a job in the new Bush Administration. If he did it would set off a massive and expensive special election for his 47th CD – which is so top heavy with GOP voters that Demos need not apply. Names mentioned as possible candidates if Cox were to jump ship include new State Sen. Dick Ackerman; Orange Co. Sup. Todd Spitzer; Laguna Niguel Councilwoman Mimi Walters; and perhaps even Mark Chapin Johnson, one of the key deep pocketed moderate GOP backers of the O.C.'s *New Majority Coalition*...

■ **Lawsuit On Trinity River ROD** – ROD is Record of Decision – and in this case the ROD was put forth by outgoing Interior Sec. Bruce Babbitt and the Interior Dept. The ROD issued by Babbitt calls for a change in the amount of water released down the Sacramento and Trinity Rivers to restore salmon fisheries, but in doing so it appears the ROD could wipe out as much as 324 megawatts of hydro-electric generating capacity (to power 324,000 homes). Bad timing

by the Dept. of Interior. The lawsuit to reverse the ROD has been filed by the No. Calif. Power Agency, SMUD and the San Luis & Delta/Mendota Water Authorities...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook. We've got a ton of these announcements...

● The family of the late U.S. Sen. Alan Cranston(D) will hold a memorial service, 3 p.m., Jan. 16, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco. Reception to follow. Info (415)561-6686...

● Burson-Marsteller's Sacto office has moved to 1215 "K" St., Ste. 1050, Sacto 95814. (916)341-1000...

● CA Treasurer Phil Angelides has named Katrina M. Johantgen as the new exec. director of the CA School Finance Authority and Duncan McFetridge has been named exec. director of the CA Alternative Energy & Advanced Transportation Financing Authority...

● Ronald W. Wade has joined L.A.-based Kosmont Partners. The senior financial analyst specializes in public agency real estate. He serves on the Lakewood Planning Commission...

● Former GOP Assembly Leader Scott Baugh has been hired by the Sacto office of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips. He'll be a partner in the Govt. & Internat'l Trade & Policy unit...

● City of L.A. has a new treasurer: Joya C. De Foor, who was the Long Beach City Treasurer. Foor must win city council confirmation...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

● **Legislative Mobilization Coordinator.** Calif. Transit Assn. is hiring a full-time position to mobilize member agencies to become more involved in the political process. Competitive salary & benefits. Send cover letter, resume and writing sample to Josh Shaw, Executive Director. Fax (916)446-4318. E-mail: jshaw@transitassociation.org.

● **West Los Angeles women's political action committee** seeks secretary/administrative assistant. PC skills required. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Please fax resume to (310) 289-0719.

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